

fillment of the undertakings they made in the Governors Island Agreement so that Haitian democracy can be restored and President Aristide can return to Haiti. Such a political process will enable the lifting of sanctions and the start of Haiti's economic reconstruction and national reconciliation. The United States will continue to play a leadership role in the international community's program of support and assistance for the restoration of democracy and return of President Aristide to Haiti.

I will continue to report periodically to the Congress on significant developments pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1703(c).

William J. Clinton

The White House,
April 25, 1994.

Remarks and an Exchange With Reporters Prior to a Meeting With Congressional Leaders

April 26, 1994

South African Elections

The President. This delegation from the House and Senate is here to report on the trip that they took to South Africa a couple of weeks ago. And I'd like to just begin by offering the congratulations of the United States to the people of South Africa for beginning the election process today.

I'm sure many of you have already seen some of the pictures that are coming in. They're very, very moving. There was one older lady who had to wait for a few hours. And she said that she'd been waiting all of her life, that a couple hours more was no problem for her.

I think it is a—especially in light of the extra round of violence that the people have endured in the last few days, that the renewed determination of the people there to claim their democracy and to have this multi-racial election is really a wonderful thing. The United States is committed to this process and its success. And we'll be there as your partner when the elections are over.

Bosnia

Q. Mr. President, are you confident the Serbs will meet the deadline this evening?

The President. Well, we expect them to. And of course, we're following it very closely today.

Q. Are you confident you've worked out the problems with the United Nations in case they do not?

The President. I believe that we have. We worked hard on it last weekend. And as I told you, I believe that we have.

Welfare Reform

Q. Mr. President, are you going to have to scale back your welfare plan because you've decided against any taxes to pay for it?

The President. Well, in the beginning we knew that, based on the CBO budgeting rules, we wouldn't have—we couldn't raise enough money anyway to guarantee a job, publicly funded job, for every person on public assistance that might not have a job within the 2-year time period. So we'll have to phase that portion of it in. But it'll still be quite an extensive program.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:50 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement on South African Elections

April 26, 1994

On behalf of all Americans, I want to congratulate the people of South Africa on the start of the 3-day elections now taking place in their country. Today's images of South Africans—black and white—going to the polls in the face of intimidation by vicious opponents of democracy inspire the imagination and are a stern rebuke to the cynics of the world.

South Africans are taking control of their own destinies and preparing to tackle the fundamental challenges of establishing a government of national unity, restoring stability and prosperity, and improving the lives of the South African people. I am proud of the role so many Americans have played in the struggle against apartheid. I can assure South Africans that we will be just as involved in help-

ing to build the nonracial democracy that can come in its wake.

Memorandum on Environmentally Beneficial Landscaping

April 26, 1994

Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies

Subject: Environmentally and Economically Beneficial Practices on Federal Landscaped Grounds

The Report of the National Performance Review contains recommendations for a series of environmental actions, including one to increase environmentally and economically beneficial landscaping practices at Federal facilities and federally funded projects. Environmentally beneficial landscaping entails utilizing techniques that complement and enhance the local environment and seek to minimize the adverse effects that the landscaping will have on it. In particular, this means using regionally native plants and employing landscaping practices and technologies that conserve water and prevent pollution.

These landscaping practices should benefit the environment, as well as generate long-term costs savings for the Federal Government. For example, the use of native plants not only protects our natural heritage and provides wildlife habitat, but also can reduce fertilizer, pesticide, and irrigation demands and their associated costs because native plants are suited to the local environment and climate.

Because the Federal Government owns and landscapes large areas of land, our stewardship presents a unique opportunity to provide leadership in this area and to develop practical and cost-effective methods to preserve and protect that which has been entrusted to us. Therefore, for Federal grounds, Federal projects, and federally funded projects, I direct that agencies shall, where cost-effective and to the extent practicable:

(a) use regionally native plants for landscaping;

(b) design, use, or promote construction practices that minimize adverse effects on the natural habitat;

(c) seek to prevent pollution by, among other things, reducing fertilizer and pesticide use, using integrated pest management techniques, recycling green waste, and minimizing runoff. Landscaping practices that reduce the use of toxic chemicals provide one approach for agencies to reach reduction goals established in Executive Order No. 12856, "Federal Compliance with Right-To-Know Laws and Pollution Prevention Requirements;"

(d) implement water-efficient practices, such as the use of mulches, efficient irrigation systems, audits to determine exact landscaping water-use needs, and recycled or reclaimed water and the selecting and siting of plants in a manner that conserves water and controls soil erosion. Landscaping practices, such as planting regionally native shade trees around buildings to reduce air conditioning demands, can also provide innovative measures to meet the energy consumption reduction goal established in Executive Order No. 12902, "Energy Efficiency and Water Conservation at Federal Facilities;" and

(e) create outdoor demonstrations incorporating native plants, as well as pollution prevention and water conservation techniques, to promote awareness of the environmental and economic benefits of implementing this directive. Agencies are encouraged to develop other methods for sharing information on landscaping advances with interested nonfederal parties.

In order to assist agencies in implementing this directive, the Federal Environmental Executive shall:

(a) establish an interagency working group to develop recommendations for guidance, including compliance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321, 4331-4335, and 4341-4347, and training needs to implement this directive. The recommendations are to be developed by November 1994; and